United Nations ICCD/CRIC(16)/1

Convention to Combat Desertification

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Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention
Sixteenth session
Ordos, China, 7–13 September 2017
Item 1 (a) of the provisional agenda
Organizational matters
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

Note by the secretariat

I. Provisional agenda

1. Organizational matters:
   - (a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work;
   - (b) Election of officers other than the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention.
2. Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional levels:
   - (a) Review of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention on its fifteenth session;
   - (b) Multi-year workplan for Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies;
   - (c) Performance of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies;
   - (d) Development and implementation of strategies through national action programmes to achieve the objectives of the Convention in light of target 15.3 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
   - (e) Securing of additional investment and relations with financial mechanisms: report by the Global Environment Facility on its strategies, programmes and projects for financing the agreed incremental costs of activities concerning desertification.

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3. The UNCCD reporting and review process in view of the integration of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets into the implementation of the UNCCD:

   Improving the procedures for communication of information as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties.

4. Procedural matters:

   Programme of work for the seventeenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention.

5. Adoption of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Dates and venue of the session

1. Pursuant to provisions contained in paragraph 19 of the annex to decision 11/COP.9, the sixteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC 16) will be held from 7 to 13 September 2017 during the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 13) in Ordos, China.

Provisional agenda

2. According to the terms of reference of the CRIC, set out in decision 11/COP.9, the provisional agenda for the sessions of the CRIC shall be prepared by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the CRIC Bureau.

3. Decision 11/COP.9 was taken into account when compiling the provisional agenda for this document along with other relevant decisions of the COP, including decisions 3/COP.8, 1/COP.10 and 3/COP.12.

Documentation

4. A list of documents for or relevant to the session is provided in annex I to this document. In addition to the normal distribution procedure, official documents for the session will be made available on the website of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD): <www.unccd.int>.

1. Organizational matters

(a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

5. The CRIC will have before it for consideration for adoption the provisional agenda contained in this document. A tentative schedule of work for the session is contained in annex II to this document and developed in the sections below.

Purpose of the session

6. In accordance with paragraph 17 of the terms of reference of the CRIC, as contained in the annex to decision 11/COP.9, the CRIC will address the items on its agenda at its sixteenth session with a view to formulating draft decisions, where necessary, for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the COP.

Organization of work

7. The CRIC may wish to consider the following scenario: at the opening session on 7 September 2017, the Chair of the CRIC will call for the adoption of the agenda and organization of work. This will be followed by the consideration of items 2 and 3 of the agenda, which will continue through its meeting on 8 September.

8. At its concluding meeting on 13 September, following the completion of the review of the substantive agenda items, the CRIC will consider the programme of work for its seventeenth session, adopt its report, including where necessary the draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the COP, and elect officers other than the Chair of the CRIC. At the plenary meeting of the COP on 15 September, the CRIC draft decisions will be submitted to the COP for consideration and possible adoption.

(b) Election of officers other than the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

9. Pursuant to paragraph 9 of the terms of reference of the CRIC, as contained in decision 11/COP.9, four Vice-Chairs shall constitute the CRIC Bureau, together with the Chair, elected by the COP in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the COP. They shall be elected with due regard to the need to ensure equitable geographical distribution and adequate representation of affected country Parties, particularly those in Africa, while not neglecting affected country Parties in other regions. They shall not serve for more than two consecutive terms.

10. In accordance with this decision, the Chair will call for the election of these officers at the final meeting of the CRIC. The Vice-Chairs elected, of whom one shall act as Rapporteur, shall assume their office immediately.

2. Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional levels

(a) Review of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention on its fifteenth session

11. *Background*: In accordance with the annex of decision 11/COP.9, the CRIC is invited at sessions held during ordinary sessions of the COP, inter alia, to review the final report on sessions held between ordinary sessions of the COP containing its recommendations on further steps to be taken to facilitate effective implementation of the Convention.

12. As CRIC 15 was an intersessional session held on an exceptional basis to deal with ad hoc agenda items,[1] and as the reporting process was optional in 2016, it is proposed that, at its sixteenth session, the CRIC review the recommendations contained in the final report of CRIC 15 and items related to the CRIC 16 agenda.

13. *Action*: the CRIC will be invited to review the report on its fifteenth session and to formulate draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the COP.

ICCD/CRIC(15)/7 – Report of the fifteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, held in Nairobi from 18 to 20 October 2016

[1] For example, the interim report on the future strategic framework by the Intergovernmental Working Group on the future strategic framework of the Convention and the report by the Global Mechanism on the voluntary, national land degradation neutrality target setting exercise.

(b) Multi-year workplan for Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies

14. *Background:* In decision 3/COP.8, the COP requested Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies to develop their respective results-based management (RBM) multi-year (four-year) workplans in line with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018), and to report to the CRIC on progress in their implementation.

15. By the annex to its decision 11/COP.9, the COP entrusted the review of the multi-year workplans of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies to the CRIC at sessions held in conjunction with the COP.

16. *Action:* The CRIC will be invited to review the comprehensive multi-year workplan for the Convention (2018–2021) and formulate a draft decision for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the COP.

ICCD/COP(13)/8-ICCD/CRIC(16)/2 – Comprehensive multi-year workplan for the Convention (2018–2021) and two-year costed work programme for the Convention (2018–2019). Note by the secretariat

(c) Performance of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies

17. *Background*: By its decision 11/COP.9,[2] the COP requested the CRIC to undertake a performance review of the Convention's institutions and subsidiary bodies, taking an RBM approach based on reports on the two-year costed work programmes.

18. By its decision 1/COP.10, the COP decided that future performance reviews by the CRIC should be based on the reports on the implementation of the two-year costed work programmes of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies, starting with its twelfth session. It also decided that the performance indicators and their related targets in the workplans should be used to allow for the proper performance assessment of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies.

19. *Action*: The CRIC will be invited to assist the COP in the review of the performance of the Convention's institutions and subsidiary bodies to foster the implementation of the Convention and to make any recommendations it may wish to forward to the COP for action.

ICCD/CRIC(16)/3 – Report on the performance of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies (2016–2017). Note by the secretariat

(d) Development and implementation of strategies through national action programmes to achieve the objectives of the Convention in light of target 15.3 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

20. *Background*: By its decision 3/COP.12, paragraph 5 (a), the COP invited country Parties to formulate voluntary targets to achieve land degradation neutrality (LDN) in accordance with their specific national circumstances and development priorities, taking into account the list of options for operationalizing LDN at the national level as outlined by the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Future Strategic framework (IWG-FSF). In addition, in paragraph 5 (c), Parties were invited to explore options on how to integrate the voluntary LDN targets into their national action programmes (NAP) as part of their overall discussion on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

[2] Annex, paragraph 2 (b).

21. *Action*: The CRIC will be invited to review information on the revision of action programmes contained in document ICCD/COP(13)/2 and to contribute to a draft decision for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the COP.

ICCD/COP(13)/2 – Integration of Sustainable Development Goal 15 and related target 15.3 which states: "to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world", into the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Report by the Executive Secretary

(e) Securing of additional investments and relations with financial mechanisms: report by the Global Environment Facility on its strategies, programmes and projects for financing the agreed incremental costs of activities concerning desertification

22. *Background:* Article 20, paragraph 2 (b), of the Convention addresses the need to promote the mobilization of adequate, timely and predictable financial resources, including new and additional funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF). By its decision 9/COP.1, the COP decided to include as a standing item on its agenda a review of available information on the financing of the Convention by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the GEF concerning desertification, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2 (b), of the Convention.

23. The Memorandum of Understanding between the UNCCD and the GEF, adopted under decision 6/COP.7, provides that the GEF will submit a report to each regular session of the COP, through the UNCCD secretariat, on its strategies, programmes and projects for financing the agreed incremental costs of activities concerning desertification.

24. The annex to decision 11/COP.9 stipulates that the CRIC shall review the collaboration with the GEF at sessions held in conjunction with the COP, including in the year 2013 and at any other time the COP may decide.

25. *Action:* The CRIC will be invited to review the report submitted by the GEF and to formulate a draft decision for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption oy the COP.

ICCD/CRIC(16)/4 – Report by the Global Environment Facility on its strategies, programmes and projects for financing the agreed incremental costs of activities concerning desertification. Note by the secretariat

3. The UNCCD reporting and review process in view of the integration of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets into the implementation of the UNCCD

Improving the procedures for communication of information as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties

26. *Background:* Parties at COP 13 will consider adopting a new strategic approach that would impact future submission of information on implementation to the COP. In addition, LDN has been introduced to the work of the Convention as an important vehicle for implementation, while progress indicators used under the UNCCD will also be used to measure progress in achieving SDG target 15.3. Consequently, there are many new developments within the context of the Convention that may encourage implementation and help Parties to monitor what has been achieved at national level.

27. In addition, and in accordance with decisions taken at COP 11 and COP 12,[3] reporting under the Convention should, inter alia, include information on how Parties integrate national-level voluntary LDN targets into their NAPs and other plans and processes, as appropriate.

28. In order to assist Parties in complying with obligations under the Convention, the UNCCD institutions have developed a global support programme in consultation with the United Nations Environment Programme and the GEF to provide technical assistance to the forthcoming reporting process, which will commence as soon as Parties have taken a decision on the new strategic orientation of this Convention.

29. *Action:* The CRIC will be invited to review the report on this matter and to make any recommendations it may wish to forward to the COP for action.

ICCD/CRIC(16)/5 – Improving the procedures for communication of information as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(16)/INF.1 – Reporting template for the 2017–2018 reporting process. Note by the secretariat

4. Procedural matters

Programme of work for the seventeenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

30. In accordance with rule 33 of the rules of procedure of the COP,[4] the CRIC is to submit to the COP, for adoption, a tentative programme of work for the next session of the Committee.

5. Adoption of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

31. By decision 11/COP.9, the CRIC shall report regularly to the COP on all aspects of its work, particularly through draft decisions prepared at sessions held in conjunction with ordinary sessions of the COP, where necessary, for consideration and adoption by the COP. Such decisions shall contain substantive elements aimed at facilitating the effective implementation of the Convention, including targets as well as the assigned responsibilities and expected financial implications of their implementation, as necessary. The report of the CRIC on its sixteenth session, including draft decisions, where necessary, shall be submitted to the COP for its consideration and, as appropriate, adoption.

[3] Decision 2/COP.12, paragraph 3, and decision 22/COP.11, particularly paragraphs 11 and 12.

[4] As contained in decision 1/COP.1.

Annex I

Documents before the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention at its sixteenth session

Document symbol	*Title*
ICCD/CRIC(15)/7	Report of the fifteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, held in Nairobi from 18 to 20 October 2016
ICCD/CRIC(16)/1	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/8-ICCD/CRIC(16)/2	Comprehensive multi-year workplan for the Convention (2018–2021) and two-year costed work programme for the Convention (2018–2019). Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(16)/3	Report on the performance of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies (2016–2017). Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(16)/4	Report by the Global Environment Facility on its strategies, programmes and projects for financing the agreed incremental costs of activities concerning desertification
ICCD/CRIC(16)/5	Improving the procedures for communication of information as well as the quality and format of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(16)/INF.1	Reporting templates for the 2017–2018 reporting process

Annex II

Tentative schedule of work for the sixteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

Thursday, 7 September 2017	
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	**3 p.m. – 6 p.m.**
• Organizational matters - *Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (ICCD/CRIC(16)/1)* • Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional levels - *Multi-year workplan for Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies (ICCD/COP(13)/8-ICCD/CRIC(16)/2)* - *Performance of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies (ICCD/CRIC(16)/3)*	• Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional levels - *Review of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention on its fifteenth session (ICCD/CRIC(15)/7)* - *Development and implementation of strategies through national action programmes to achieve the objectives of the Convention in light of target 15.3 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (ICCD/COP(13)/2)*

Friday 8 September 2017	
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	**3 p.m. – 6 p.m.**
• Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional levels - *Securing of additional investment and relations with financial mechanisms: report by the Global Environment Facility on its strategies, programmes and projects for financing the agreed incremental costs of activities concerning desertification. (ICCD/CRIC(16)/4)* • The UNCCD reporting and review process in view of the integration of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets into the implementation of the UNCCD - *Improving the procedures for communication of information as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties (ICCD/CRIC(16)/5 and ICCD/CRIC(16)/INF.1)*	• *Formulation of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, including, where necessary, draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties* • Adoption of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention.

Wednesday 13 September 2017	
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	**3 p.m. – 6 p.m.**
	• Procedural matters - *Programme of work for the seventeenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention.* • Adoption of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention • Organizational matters - *Election of officers other than the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention*